Department of Energy
Idaho Operations Office
850 Energy Drive
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-1563

February 19, 2002

Mr. Wayne Pierre, Team Leader
Environmental Cleanup Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region X
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

Mr. Dean Nygard, Site Remediation Manager
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
1410 N. Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706

SUBJECT: Curtailment of Air Stripper Treatment Unit Daily Inspections (EM-ER-02-024)

Reference: Kathleen E. Hain letter to Dean Nygard and Wayne Pierre, Curtailment of Daily Inspections of the Test Area North Air Stripper Treatment Unit and the Groundwater Treatment Facility, July 2001

Dear Mr. Pierre and Mr. Nygard:

The referenced letter listed the following three activities, that when complete, would allow the curtailment of daily inspections of the Air Stripper Treatment Unit (ASTU):

- Flush the ASTU by processing potable water through the system. During processing, the air stripper blower will be operating and the effluent water will be injected into well TAN-49 (ASTU injection well).
- Sample residual water remaining in the air stripper sump and analyze for trichloroethene (TCE) using the Solid Phase Micro Extraction (SPME) method. If the TCE concentration is less than 5 µg/L then it will be determined that the hazardous waste has been removed.
- Repeat flushes as needed until the concentration of TCE in the ASTU sump is less than 5 µg/L.

The three steps were completed on January 31, 2002. As shown in Table 1, the concentration of TCE in the ASTU rinsate samples was less than the SPME detection limit of 2.39 µg/L. The concentration of perchloroethene (PCE), cis-dichloroethene (c-DCE), trans-DCE, and vinyl chloride (VC) in the rinsate also were less than the SPME method detection limit of 2.39 µg/L.

Table 1. Concentration of volatile organic compounds in Air Stripper Treatment Unit (ASTU) rinsate water.

Analyte	Sample 1	Sample 2	Detection Limit (µg/L)
Trichloroethene (TCE)	non-detect	non-detect	2.39
Perchloroethene (PCE)	non-detect	non-detect	2.39
cis-dicholoroethene (c-DCE)	non-detect	non-detect	2.39
trans-dichloroethene (t-DCE)	non-detect	non-detect	2.39
vinyl chloride (VC)	non-detect	non-detect	2.39

The project has met the intent stated in the referenced letter and daily inspections of the ASTU will be curtailed beginning February 28, 2002, unless you notify us otherwise. If you have any questions regarding this issue please contact Mark Shaw at (208) 526-6442.

Sincerely,

RMShaw for

Kathleen E. Hain, Manager
Environmental Restoration Program

cc: M. Jeffers, DEQ, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83706